

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

TADAHIRO OHMI, et al.

Application No.: 10/762,521

Filed: January 23, 2004



Group Art Unit: 2818

Examiner: David Vu

Confirmation No.: 5332

For: FLASH MEMORY DEVICE AND A FABRICATION PROCESS THEREOF, METHOD OF FORMING A DIELECTRIC FILM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the cited U.S. patents are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before the payment of the issue fee with the necessary fee as required by 37 CFR 1.17(p).

No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. The two references were cited in two Office Actions for two related applications. The Examiner in the present application is also examining these related patent applications. U.S. Patent No. 6,469,333 was cited in an Office Action, dated April 6, 2005 for Serial No. 10/359,701, and U.S. Patent No. 5,707,888 was cited in an Office Action, dated April 8, 2005 for Serial No. 10/359,592.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within thirty (30) days of receipt of the references from the US Patent Office. As such in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.704, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not reduce the patent term for the patent that issues from this application.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants prior to issuance of the present application as a patent to indicate that the references have been considered, pursuant to MPEP § 609.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: April 22, 2005

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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

## Sheets

1

10

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**Attorney Docket Number**

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/762,520
Filing Date	01/23/2004
First Named Inventor	TADAHIRO OHMI
Art Unit	2818
Examiner Name	David Vu
Attorney Docket Number	040258-0307828

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).<sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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